Question 8 (10 marks)

To what extent has research since the end of the 1960s changed our understanding of the evidence from the sites of Pompeii and Herculaneum?

In your answer, refer to Sources F and G and your own knowledge.

Research since the end of the 1960s has significantly changed our understanding of evidence from Pompeii and Herculaneum, due to the increasing value of modern technology and the possibility of overcoming inaccuracies and limitations in historical evidence up to the 1960s, and an improvement in understanding of current evidence.

New technology has had a profound effect upon skeletal research after the 1960s, in particular, Estelle Lazzar and her work on the skeletons found in the boat house...

The skeletons found in the boat house, seen as... were trapped by the eruption, and died an agonising death as the temperature inside rose to extreme temperatures. The original assumption that they were "old..."
and unable to escape, is challenged by Estelle's research, studying their bones, and ligament remains to determine their age, diet, diseases, and physical condition. From her evidence, it is now apparent that in the bodies can now be understood to be of all ages, and simply sought safety in the hot baths when they were unable to escape. Source D depicts one of the skeletons found in the baths, the Herculeum bath houses. In her case, she would have just been another skeleton, however, with Americanist Sarah Dick's work, we now have an identification of who she was from her jewelry, to her status, as a slave.

Alternatively, Source A challenges our interpretation of Latin itself, or due to the aspects of modern culture, we immediately apply to it. This being seen in the quote an unvalidated assumption, that each Latin term is equivalent to a modern term, for which it is not. Therefore, we can see from Source A that we require a greater understanding of Pompeian culture, to truly translate their language into our, for example, the particular functions of baths and dining rooms, both having significantly higher importance than today,神奇地 as a place of social interaction. Again, thanks to modern techniques/technologies - i.e., Estelle's work on skeletons, we can have gained a significant amount of understanding of Pompeian culture through end of Question 8